

I am a Tech only ham operator for almost 10 years. I have tried and failed CW countless times. However, I am a Skywarn storm spotter for Illinois, the assistant Emergency Coordinator for Kane County IL, and have used my communications skills for many public service events, most notably the ADA Tour deCure's in Illinois.

I favor the release of the morse code requirement. In saving lives and property, I have used digital and voice comms, but not CW. I could be much more effective in my Red Cross, Homeland security, and other mid-west emergency communications if allowed to go beyond the VHF only limits. I have no problem with the written General exam, it is only the CW part that has stopped my participation. Please consider this petition as it is well thought out and makes the most sense. Thank you.